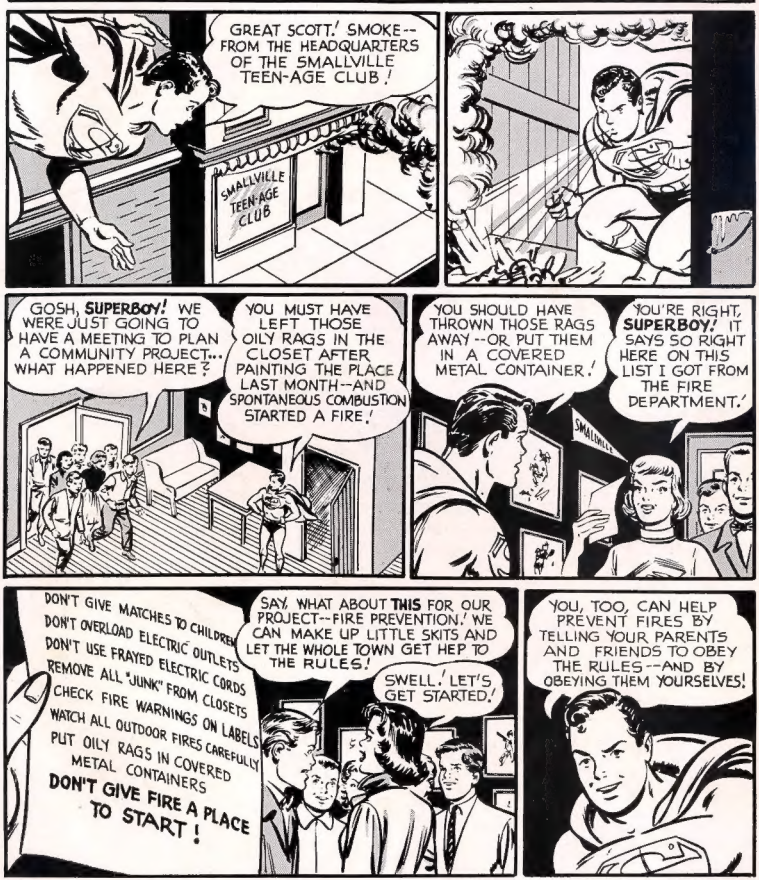
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
A New SPACE RANGER ADVENTURE!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MYSTERY IN SPACE
12¢
FEB.
NO. 97
"THE DAY ADAM STRANGE VANISHED!"
GREAT STARS! A GREEN SUN... GREEN SAND... INSTEAD OF BEING TRANSPORTED TO RANN ON THE ZETA BEAM, I'VE LANDED ON A STRANGE WORLD-- TRAPPED!
BEING DRAWN...
DOWN TO MY...
DOOM!

SUPERBOY says: "Don't Give FIRE A Place to Start!"


GREAT SCOTT! SMOKE--FROM THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE SMALLVILLE TEEN-AGE CLUB!
SMALLVILLE TEEN-AGE CLUB
GOSH, SUPERBOY! WE WERE JUST GOING TO HAVE A MEETING TO PLAN A COMMUNITY PROJECT... WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
YOU MUST HAVE LEFT THOSE OILY RAGS IN THE CLOSET AFTER PAINTING THE PLACE LAST MONTH--AND SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION STARTED A FIRE!
YOU SHOULD HAVE THROWN THOSE RAGS AWAY--OR PUT THEM IN A COVERED METAL CONTAINER!
YOU'RE RIGHT, SUPERBOY! IT SAYS SO RIGHT HERE ON THIS LIST I GOT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT!
DON'T GIVE MATCHES TO CHILDREN
DON'T OVERLOAD ELECTRIC OUTLETS
DON'T USE FRAYED ELECTRIC CORDS
REMOVE ALL "JUNK" FROM CLOSETS
CHECK FIRE WARNINGS ON LABELS
WATCH ALL OUTDOOR FIRES CAREFULLY
PUT OILY RAGS IN COVERED METAL CONTAINERS
DON'T GIVE FIRE A PLACE TO START!
SAY, WHAT ABOUT THIS FOR OUR PROJECT--FIRE PREVENTION! WE CAN MAKE UP LITTLE SKITS AND LET THE WHOLE TOWN GET HEP TO THE RULES!
SWELL! LET'S GET STARTED!
YOU, TOO, CAN HELP PREVENT FIRES BY TELLING YOUR PARENTS AND FRIENDS TO OBEY THE RULES--AND BY OBEYING THEM YOURSELVES!

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WERE THE AWESOME CATASTROPHES THAT OCCURRED ON THE LITTLE SATURNIAN MOON, GNARR, NATURAL? OR WERE THEY ALL PART OF A RUTHLESS CRIMINAL SCHEME? AND WHY? WHO WOULD HAVE ANYTHING TO GAIN BY THESE DESTRUCTIVE ACTS? THESE WERE THE QUESTIONS THAT **SPACE RANGER** AND HIS ODD LITTLE ASSISTANT, CRYLL, HAD TO ANSWER QUICKLY IF THEY HOPED TO STOP THE MENACE BEHIND...

the SECRET of the JINXED MOON

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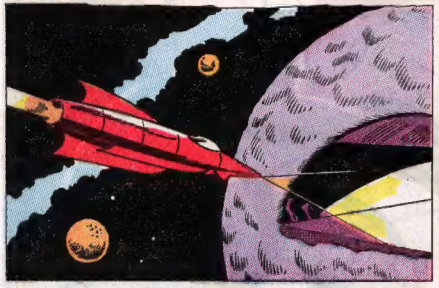
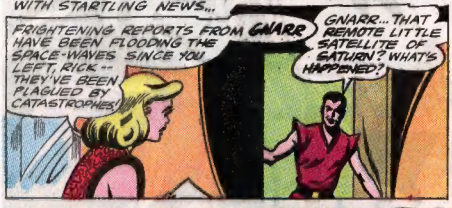
ON ONE OF THE MANY ASTEROIDS BETWEEN MARS AND JUPITER, A SECTION OF ROCK SLIDES OPEN, REVEALING THE CLEVERLY DISGUISED HIDEOUT OF **SPACE RANGER--GUARDIAN OF THE UNIVERSE!**

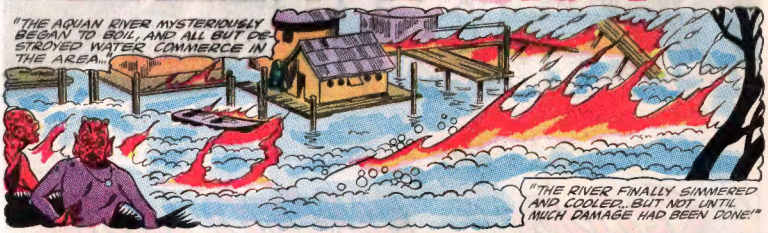


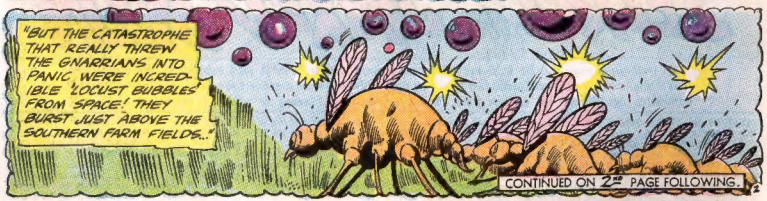
INSIDE AS THE FAMOUS SPACE HERO MAKES A QUICK CHANGE INTO HIS EVERYDAY ROLE OF RICK STARR...

IT SURE WILL BE GREAT TO GET BACK TO CIVVIE LIFE AGAIN AFTER TEN DAYS IN SPACE, CRYLL! WONDER HOW THINGS ARE AT THE OFFICE?
YOU'LL HAVE TO SHOW UP, BOSS--ME, I'M GOING TO CATCH UP ON SOME SLEEP!

RAGING TO EARTH IN HIS SPACE CRUISER, RICK ARRIVES IN HIS OFFICES AT ALLIED SOLAR ENTERPRISES, WHERE HIS PRETTY SECRETARY, MYRA, SHOCKS HIM WITH STARTLING NEWS...


FRIGHTENING REPORTS FROM GNARR HAVE BEEN FLOODING THE SPACE-WAVES SINCE YOU LEFT, RICK--THEY'VE BEEN PLAGUED BY CATASTROPHES!
GNARR... THAT REMOTE LITTLE SATELLITE OF SATURN? WHAT'S HAPPENED?


"THE AQUAN RIVER MYSTERIOUSLY BEGAN TO BOIL, AND ALL BUT DESTROYED WATER COMMERCE IN THE AREA..."
"THE RIVER FINALLY SIMMERED AND COOLED...BUT NOT UNTIL MUCH DAMAGE HAD BEEN DONE!"


"BUT THE CATASTROPHE THAT REALLY THREW THE GNARRIANS INTO PANIC, WERE INCREDIBLE 'LOCUST BUBBLES' FROM SPACE! THEY BURST JUST ABOVE THE SOUTHERN FARM FIELDS..."

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

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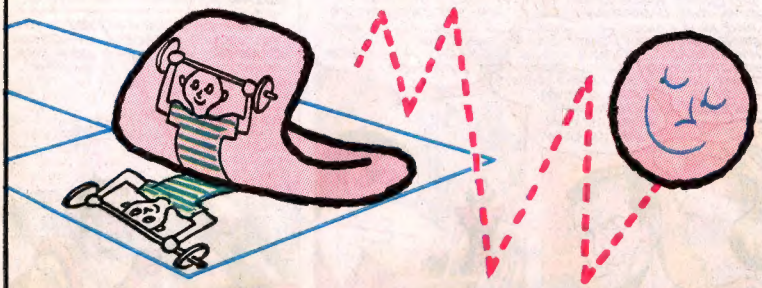

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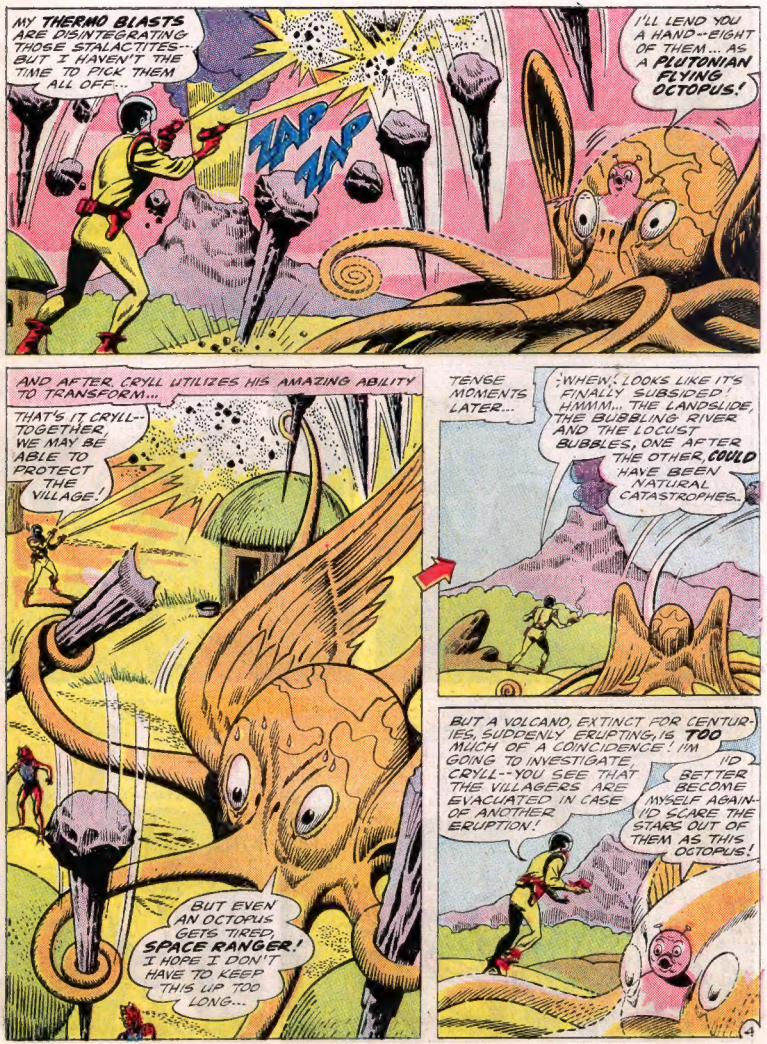
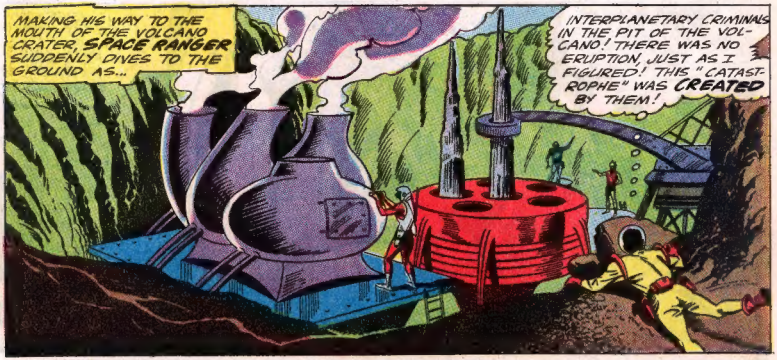
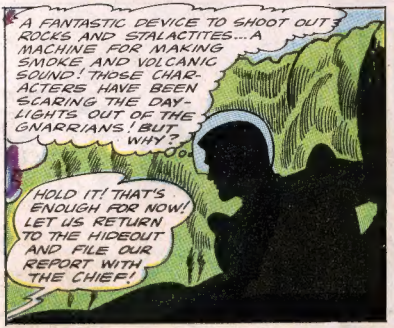
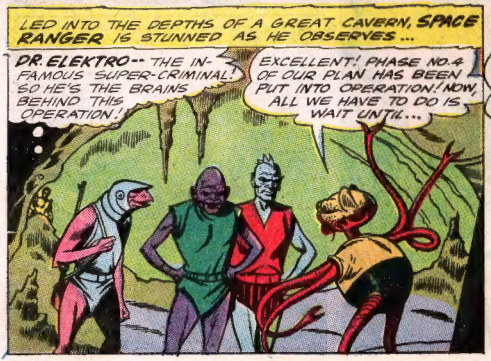
BEFORE THE LOCUSTS COULD BE DESTROYED, MOST OF THE CROPS WERE LOST! RICK--THE GNARRIANS ARE IN A PANIC! MASS EVACUATION HAS ALREADY STARTED--THEY THINK THEIR MOON IS JINXED!
ODD.. THAT THESE CATASTROPHES SHOULD STRIKE IN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD, MYRA! WELL, THERE GOES MY CIVILIAN VACATION!
AND I'M AFRAID MY LITTLE ASSISTANT, CRYLL'S SLEEP IS GOING TO TURN INTO A SHORT CAT-NAP! I'M GOING TO INVESTIGATE THE SITUATION ON GNARR--AS SPACE RANGER!
BEFORE HER ENGINES HAVE COOLED FROM THE LAST MISSION, THE SOLAR KING IS SPACE-BORN AGAIN!
CHECK ME IF I'M WRONG, SPACE RANGER--BUT AREN'T THE GNARRIANS THE ONES THAT THE SATURNIAN UNIVERSITY SCIENTISTS STARTED DOING A STUDY ON A FEW MONTHS AGO?
YES--THEY'RE A RELATIVELY PRIMITIVE RACE, BUT HIGHLY INTELLIGENT--AND NOT TOO MUCH IS KNOWN ABOUT THEM! BUT THIS "JINX" WILL FINISH THAT STUDY, MISSION...
NO SOONER DOES THE SOLAR KING ROLL TO A STOP AT THE GNARRIAN SPACEPORT THAN...
WHAT?
ATTENTION! THE MT. ZUBRA VOLCANO HAS JUST ERUPTED... THE VILLAGE OF ARBUZ IS IN IMMINENT DANGER...
MT. ZUBRA! WHY... THIS IS INCREDIBLE--THAT VOLCANO'S BEEN EXTINCT FOR CENTURIES! I READ ABOUT IT ONLY RECENTLY! LET'S HOP A LAND-CRUISER AND GET OUT THERE, CRYLL!
EVACUATION SHIPS
AS SPACE RANGER AND CRYLL SPEED TO WITHIN SIGHT OF THE VOLCANO...
HISSS
RUMBLE
THERE'S NOTHING EXTINCT ABOUT THAT MASS OF MOUNTAIN--IT'S SPEWING FORTH SECTIONS OF EARTH AND ROCK!
AND THOSE STALACTITES ATTACHED TO THEM WILL MAKE A PIN CUSHION OF THE VILLAGE! LET'S GET MOVING, CRYLL!


MY THERMO BLASTS ARE DISINTEGRATING THOSE STALACTITES--BUT I HAVEN'T THE TIME TO PICK THEM ALL OFF...
ZAP
ZAP
I'LL LEND YOU A HAND--EIGHT OF THEM... AS A PLUTONIAN FLYING OCTOPUS!
AND AFTER, CRYLL UTILIZES HIS AMAZING ABILITY TO TRANSFORM...
THAT'S IT, CRYLL--TOGETHER, WE MAY BE ABLE TO PROTECT THE VILLAGE!
BUT EVEN AN OCTOPUS GETS TIRED, SPACE RANGER! I HOPE I DON'T HAVE TO KEEP THIS UP TOO LONG...
TENSE MOMENTS LATER...
WHEW! LOOKS LIKE IT'S FINALLY SUBSIDED! HMMM... THE LANDSLIDE, THE BUBBLING RIVER AND THE LOCUST BUBBLES, ONE AFTER THE OTHER, COULD HAVE BEEN NATURAL CATASTROPHES.
BUT A VOLCANO, EXTINCT FOR CENTURIES, SUDDENLY ERUPTING, IS TOO MUCH OF A COINCIDENCE! I'M GOING TO INVESTIGATE, CRYLL--YOU SEE THAT THE VILLAGERS ARE EVACUATED IN CASE OF ANOTHER ERUPTION!
I'D BETTER BECOME MYSELF AGAIN--I'D SCARE THE STARS OUT OF THEM AS THIS OCTOPUS!


MAKING HIS WAY TO THE MOUTH OF THE VOLCANO CRATER, SPACE RANGER SUDDENLY DIVES TO THE GROUND AS...
INTERPLANETARY CRIMINALS IN THE PIT OF THE VOLCANO! THERE WAS NO ERUPTION, JUST AS I FIGURED! THIS "CATASTROPHE" WAS CREATED BY THEM!


A FANTASTIC DEVICE TO SHOOT OUT ROCKS AND STALACTITES... A MACHINE FOR MAKING SMOKE AND VOLCANIC SOUND! THOSE CHARACTERS HAVE BEEN SCARING THE DAYLIGHTS OUT OF THE GNARRIANS! BUT WHY?
HOLD IT! THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NOW! LET US RETURN TO THE HIDEOUT AND FILE OUR REPORT WITH THE CHIEF!

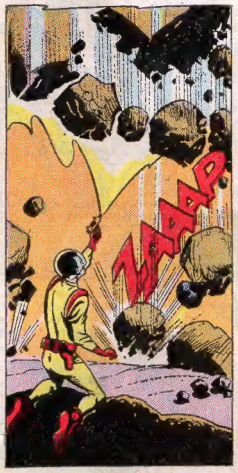
WHAT A BREAK! NOW I CAN TRAIL THEM AND FIND OUT WHO'S BEHIND THIS FIENDISH SCHEME...


LED INTO THE DEPTHS OF A GREAT CAVERN, SPACE RANGER IS STUNNED AS HE OBSERVES ...
DR. ELEKTRO -- THE INFAMOUS SUPER-CRIMINAL! SO HE'S THE BRAINS BEHIND THIS OPERATION!
EXCELLENT! PHASE NO.4 OF OUR PLAN HAS BEEN PUT INTO OPERATION! NOW, ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS WAIT UNTIL...

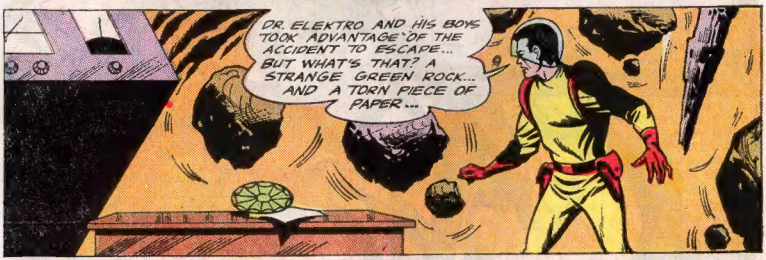
SUDDENLY...
MY BRAIN GUARD MACHINE HAS DETECTED THE PRESENCE OF AN INTRUDER...
WHRR
H-HUH...?

IT'S SPACE RANGER--MY ARCH ENEMY! SEIZE HIM--DESTROY HIM!
ITS METALLIC EXTENSIONS...MAGNETIC... PULLED MY RAY PISTOLS FROM ME...
THEN, AS STEEL CLAWS SEEK OUT THE GUARDIAN OF SPACE...
I'LL BE IN THAT THING'S GRASP IN 3 SECONDS... UNLESS...
CLAK CLAK
AS THE HIGHLY INTENSE SUPERSONIC WAVES FIND THEIR MARK...
CRACK!
...THIS NON-MAGNETIC SONIFIER FROM MY WEAPON'S BELT CAN MAKE A JUNK HEAP OF THE MACHINE!
ZAAAP
GOT THE THING... AND HALF THE CAVERN CEILING ALONG WITH IT!
OUT THE EMERGENCY CORRIDOR--HURRY! THE CAVERN'S COLLAPSING..

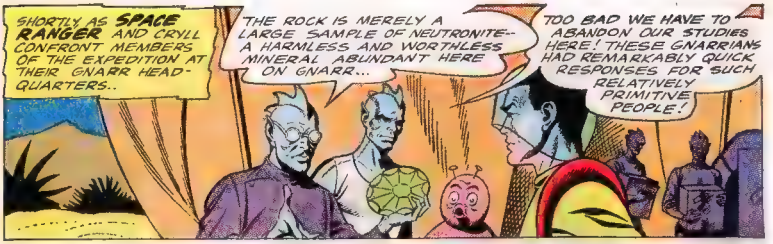
MY RAY PISTOL... DROPPED FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE MACHINE WHEN I DESTROYED THE THING... IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE...

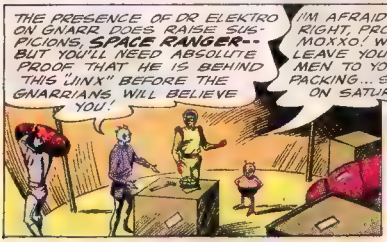

WITH LIGHTNING-LIKE SPEED, SPACE RANGER SNARES HIS PISTOL, WHIRLS AND..
ZAAAP

IN AN INSTANT, THE PLUMMETING DEBRIS STOPS... AND HOVERS HARMLESSLY IN MID-AIR...
WHEW! I GOT THAT ANTI-GRAVITY BLAST OFF JUST IN TIME! THE DEBRIS WILL FLOAT IN MID-AIR UNTIL THE CHARGE WEARS OFF!

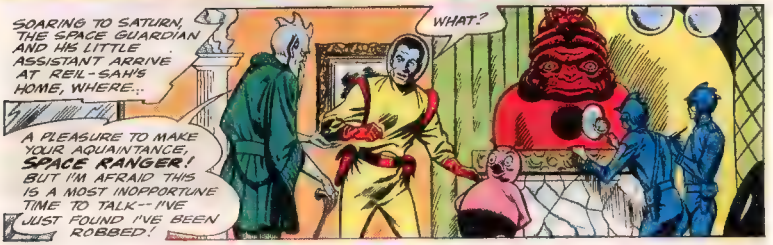

DR. ELEKTRO AND HIS BOYS TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE ACCIDENT TO ESCAPE... BUT WHAT'S THAT? A STRANGE GREEN ROCK... AND A TORN PIECE OF PAPER...

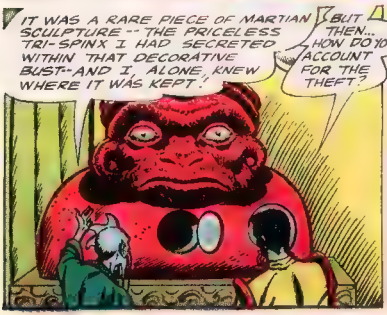
AND "REIL-SAH"
"REIL-SAH"... WHY HE'S THE FAMOUS SATURNIAN ART COLLECTOR! BUT THIS MASS OF GREEN ROCK HAS ME STUMPED -- PERHAPS THE MEMBERS OF THE SATURNIAN EXPEDITION HERE ON GNARR CAN FILL ME IN...

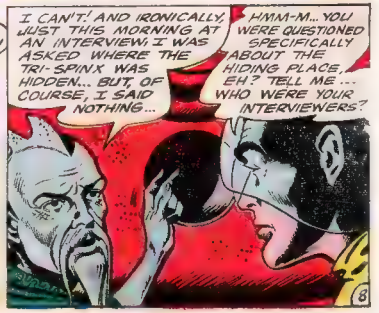

SHORTLY AS SPACE RANGER AND CRYLL CONFRONT MEMBERS OF THE EXPEDITION AT THEIR GNARR HEADQUARTERS..
THE ROCK IS MERELY A LARGE SAMPLE OF NEUTRONITE--A HARMLESS AND WORTHLESS MINERAL ABUNDANT HERE ON GNARR...
TOO BAD WE HAVE TO ABANDON OUR STUDIES HERE! THESE GNARRIANS HAD REMARKABLY QUICK RESPONSES FOR SUCH RELATIVELY PRIMITIVE PEOPLE!

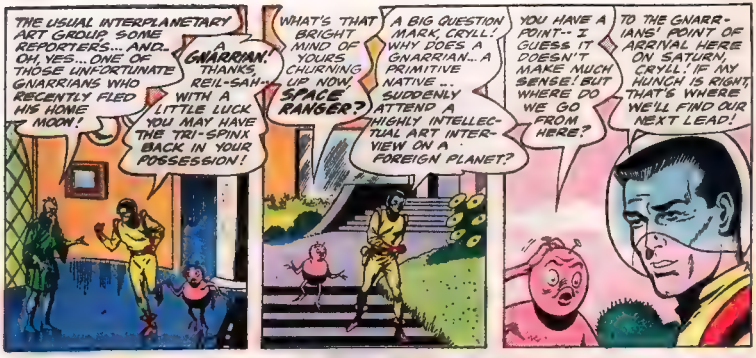

THE PRESENCE OF DR ELEKTRO ON GNARR DOES RAISE SUSPICIONS, SPACE RANGER--BUT YOU'LL NEED ABSOLUTE PROOF THAT HE IS BEHIND THIS "JINX" BEFORE THE GNARRIANS WILL BELIEVE YOU!
I'M AFRAID YOU'RE RIGHT, PROFESSOR MOXXO! WELL, WE'LL LEAVE YOU GENTLEMEN TO YOUR PACKING... SEE YOU ON SATURN!

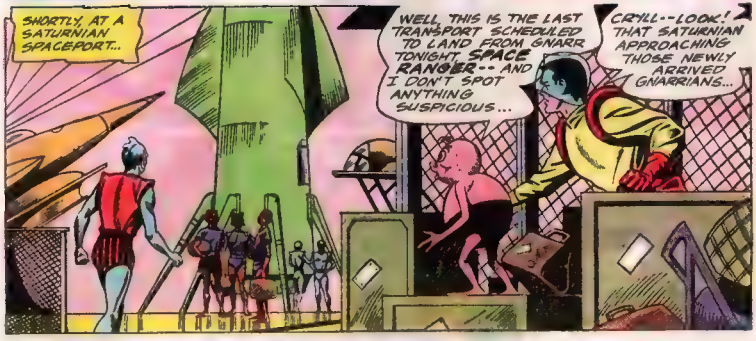
SATURN? BUT WHY ARE WE GOING THERE?
BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE REIL-SAH IS LOCATED, CRYLL--OUR ONLY LEAD TO DR. ELEKTRO AND THE MOTIVE BEHIND THESE "JINXES!"


SOARING TO SATURN, THE SPACE GUARDIAN AND HIS LITTLE ASSISTANT ARRIVE AT REIL-SAH'S HOME, WHERE...
WHAT?
A PLEASURE TO MAKE YOUR AQUAINTANCE, SPACE RANGER! BUT I'M AFRAID THIS IS A MOST INOPPORTUNE TIME TO TALK--I'VE JUST FOUND I'VE BEEN ROBBED!


IT WAS A RARE PIECE OF MARTIAN SCULPTURE--THE PRICELESS TRI-SPINX I HAD SECRETED WITHIN THAT DECORATIVE BUST--AND I, ALONE, KNEW WHERE IT WAS KEPT!
BUT THEN... HOW DO YOU ACCOUNT FOR THE THEFT?

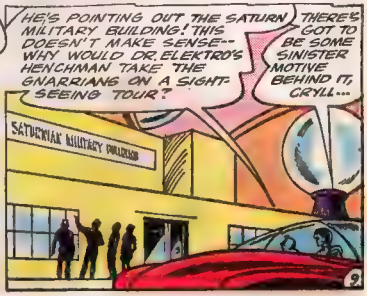

I CAN'T! AND IRONICALLY, JUST THIS MORNING AT AN INTERVIEW I WAS ASKED WHERE THE TRI-SPINX WAS HIDDEN... BUT, OF COURSE, I SAID NOTHING...
HMM-M... YOU WERE QUESTIONED SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THE HIDING PLACE, EH? TELL ME... WHO WERE YOUR INTERVIEWERS?

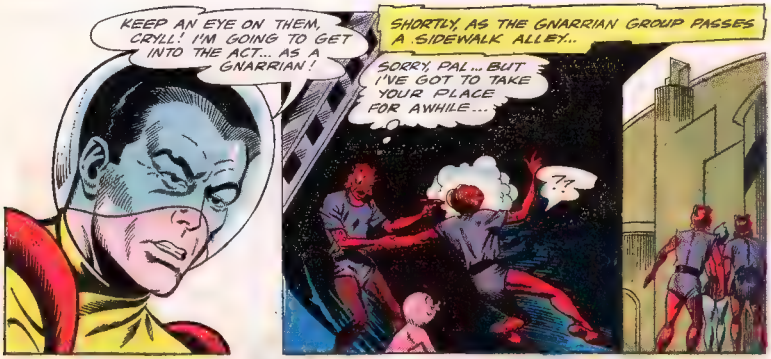

THE USUAL INTERPLANETARY ACT GROUP! SOME REPORTERS... AND... OH, YES... ONE OF THOSE UNFORTUNATE GNARRIANS WHO RECENTLY FLED HIS HOME MOON!
A GNARRIAN! THANKS, REIL-SAH... WITH A LITTLE LUCK YOU MAY HAVE THE TRI-SPINX BACK IN YOUR POSSESSION!
WHAT'S THAT BRIGHT MIND OF YOURS CHURNING UP NOW, SPACE RANGER?
A BIG QUESTION MACK, CRYLL! WHY DOES A GNARRIAN... A PRIMITIVE NATIVE ... SUDDENLY ATTEND A HIGHLY INTELLECTUAL ART INTERVIEW ON A FOREIGN PLANET?
YOU HAVE A POINT-- I GUESS IT DOESN'T MAKE MUCH SENSE! BUT WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
TO THE GNARRIANS' POINT OF ARRIVAL HERE ON SATURN, CRYLL! IF MY HUNCH IS RIGHT THAT'S WHERE WE'LL FIND OUR NEXT LEAD!

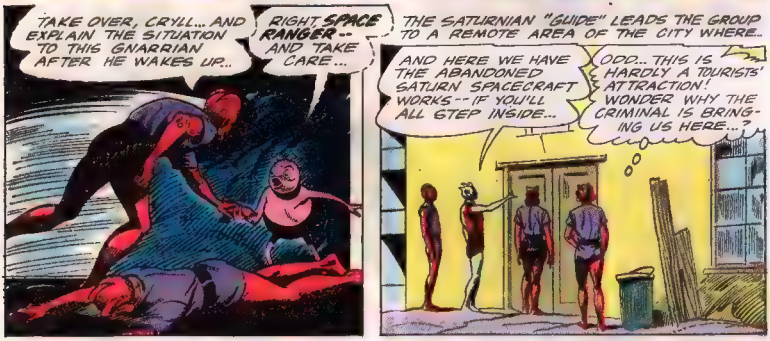

SHORTLY, AT A SATURNIAN SPACEPORT...
WELL, THIS IS THE LAST TRANSPORT SCHEDULED TO LAND FROM GNARR TONIGHT! SPACE RANGER-- AND I DON'T SPOT ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS...
CRYLL--LOOK! THAT SATURNIAN APPROACHING THOSE NEWLY ARRIVED GNARRIANS...

ONE OF THE CRIMINALS I TRAILED ON GNARR! HMM...
WE'RE GOING TO TRAIL HIM AGAIN! THE PIECES TO THIS MYSTERY ARE STARTING TO FALL INTO PLACE, CRYLL!

THE CRIMINAL ACCOMPANIES THE GNARRIAN GROUP INTO SATURN CITY WHERE...

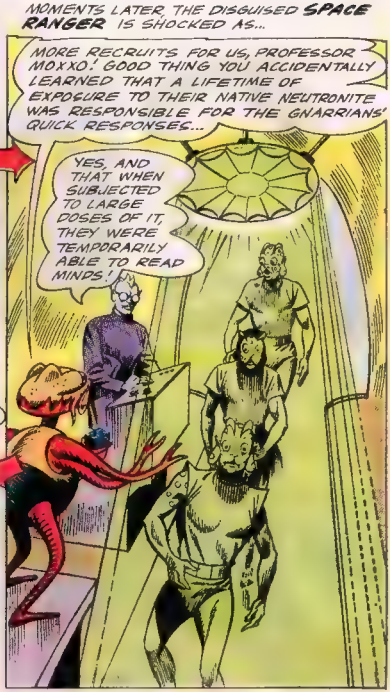

HE'S POINTING OUT THE SATURN MILITARY BUILDING! THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE-- WHY WOULD DR. ELEKTRO'S HENCHMAN TAKE THE GNARRIANS ON A SIGHT-SEEING TOUR?
THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME SINISTER MOTIVE BEHIND IT, CRYLL...
SATURNIAN MILITARY BUILDING

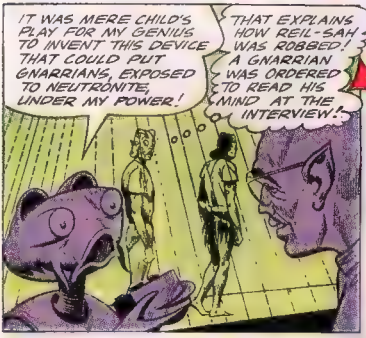

KEEP AN EYE ON THEM, CRYLL! I'M GOING TO GET INTO THE ACT... AS A GNARRIAN!
SHORTLY, AS THE GNARRIAN GROUP PASSES A SIDEWALK ALLEY..
SORRY, PAL... BUT I'VE GOT TO TAKE YOUR PLACE FOR AWHILE...
?!

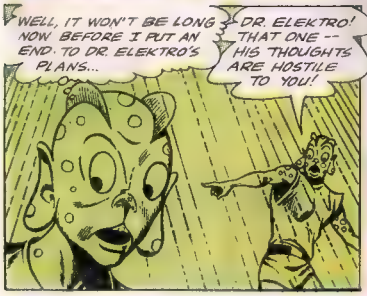

TAKE OVER, CRYLL... AND EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO THIS GNARRIAN AFTER HE WAKES UP...
RIGHT SPACE RANGER -- AND TAKE CARE...
THE SATURNIAN "GUIDE" LEADS THE GROUP TO A REMOTE AREA OF THE CITY WHERE..
AND HERE WE HAVE THE ABANDONED SATURN SPACECRAFT WORKS -- IF YOU'LL ALL STEP INSIDE...
ODD... THIS IS HARDLY A TOURISTS' ATTRACTION! I WONDER WHY THE CRIMINAL IS BRINGING US HERE...?

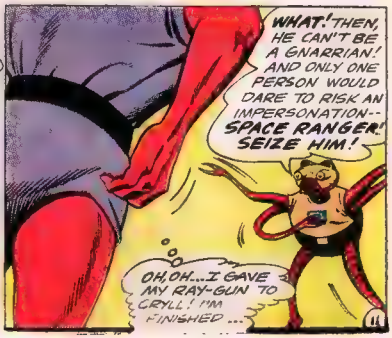
A MOMENT LATER, THE DISGUISED SPACE RANGER'S QUESTION IS ABRUPTLY ANSWERED AS...
DR. ELEKTRO... SHOOTING A BEAM AT US! BUT I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING...

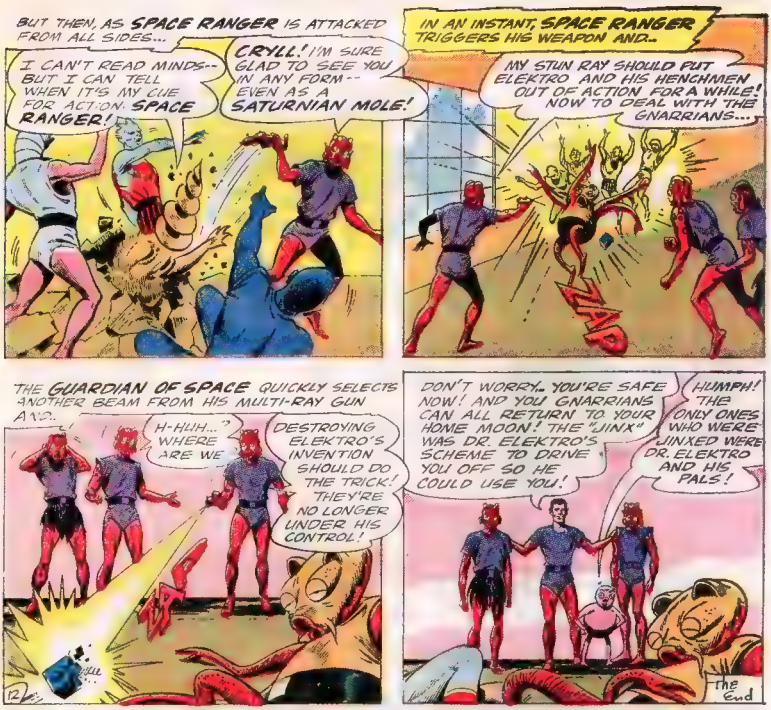
HMM... THE OTHER GNARRIANS SEEM TO BE UNDER A STRANGE SPELL! I'D BETTER PLAY ALONG...
EXCELLENT! THEY ARE ALL UNDER MY POWER NOW! INTO THAT CHAMBER, GNARRIANS!


MOMENTS LATER, THE DISGUISED SPACE RANGER IS SHOCKED AS...
MORE RECRUITS FOR US, PROFESSOR MOXXO! GOOD THING YOU ACCIDENTALLY LEARNED THAT A LIFETIME OF EXPOSURE TO THEIR NATIVE NEUTRONITE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GNARRIANS' QUICK RESPONSES...
YES, AND THAT WHEN SUBJECTED TO LARGE DOSES OF IT, THEY WERE TEMPORARILY ABLE TO READ MINDS!


IT WAS MERE CHILD'S PLAY FOR MY GENIUS TO INVENT THIS DEVICE THAT COULD PUT GNARRIANS, EXPOSED TO NEUTRONITE, UNDER MY POWER!
THAT EXPLAINS HOW REIL-SAH WAS ROBBED! A GNARRIAN WAS ORDERED TO READ HIS MIND AT THE INTERVIEW!


WELL, IT WON'T BE LONG NOW BEFORE I PUT AN END TO DR. ELEKTRO'S PLANS...
DR. ELEKTRO! THAT ONE -- HIS THOUGHTS ARE HOSTILE TO YOU!


WHAT! THEN, HE CAN'T BE A GNARRIAN! AND ONLY ONE PERSON WOULD DARE TO RISK AN IMPERSONATION-- SPACE RANGER! SEIZE HIM!
OH, OH... I GAVE MY RAY-GUN TO CRYLL! I'M MINISHED...


BUT THEN, AS SPACE RANGER IS ATTACKED FROM ALL SIDES...
I CAN'T READ MINDS--BUT I CAN TELL WHEN IT'S MY CUE FOR ACTION: SPACE RANGER!
CRYLL! I'M SURE GLAD TO SEE YOU IN ANY FORM--EVEN AS A SATURNIAN MOLE!
IN AN INSTANT, SPACE RANGER TRIGGERS HIS WEAPON AND...
MY STUN RAY SHOULD PUT ELEKTRO AND HIS HENCHMEN OUT OF ACTION FOR A WHILE! NOW TO DEAL WITH THE GNARRIANS...
ZAP
THE GUARDIAN OF SPACE QUICKLY SELECTS ANOTHER BEAM FROM HIS MULTI-RAY GUN AND...
H-HUH...? WHERE ARE WE
DESTROYING ELEKTRO'S INVENTION SHOULD DO THE TRICK! THEY'RE NO LONGER UNDER HIS CONTROL!
DON'T WORRY.. YOU'RE SAFE NOW! AND YOU GNARRIANS CAN ALL RETURN TO YOUR HOME MOON! THE "JINX" WAS DR. ELEKTRO'S SCHEME TO DRIVE YOU OFF SO HE COULD USE YOU!
HUMPH! THE ONLY ONES WHO WERE JINXED WERE DR. ELEKTRO AND HIS PALS!
The End

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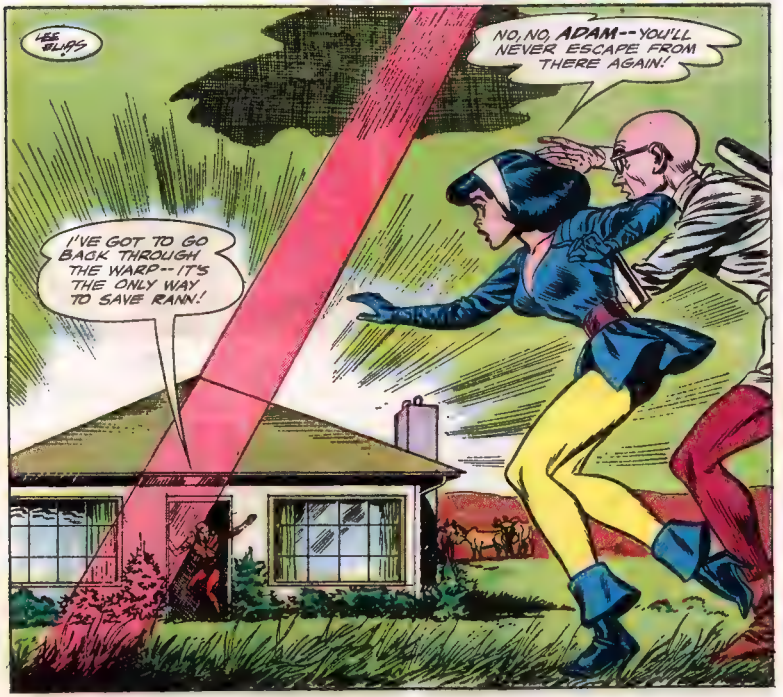
ADAM STRANGE

ONCE AGAIN, **ADAM STRANGE** IS WHISKED FROM EARTH ON THE **ZETA-BEAM**... BUT THIS TIME HE ARRIVES **24 HOURS** LATE ON PLANET **RANN**--A 24 HOURS HE CANNOT REMEMBER! AND THE FATE OF RANN DEPENDS ON WHAT HAPPENED IN THAT LENGTH OF TIME...

THE DAY ADAM STRANGE VANISHED



DEEP IN THE BUSH COUNTRY OF AUSTRALIA, EARTH ARCHEOLOGIST **ADAM STRANGE** DONS A COLORFUL UNIFORM, AND...

SORRY TO BREAK UP THE KANGAROOS' GRAZING ROUTINE-- BUT THEY'RE RIGHT ON THE SPOT WHERE THE **ZETA-BEAM'S** DUE TO HIT... IN ONE SECOND..

AS SO OFTEN IN THE PAST, THE EARTHMAN IS TRANSPORTED TOWARD THE STAR SUN **ALPHA CENTAURI**, 25 TRILLION MILES IN SPACE...

BUT WHEN HE LANDS ON THE DISTANT **PLANET RANN**...

HEAD SPINNING LIKE A TOP.. WOW! THAT WAS ONE OF THE ROUGHEST ZETA-BEAM TRIPS I'VE EVER MADE HERE!... HUH? WHAT'S THIS IN MY HAND?

IT LOOKS LIKE A VIAL OF SOME STRANGE GAS-- CAN'T REMEMBER BRINGING IT ALONG!... AND WHERE'S **ALANNA** OR HER FATHER, SARDATH? ONE OF THEM IS ALWAYS ON HAND FOR MY ARRIVAL..

THEN, AS **ADAM** ATTEMPTS TO SOAR OFF...

LEAPING SUNBEAMS! WHAT A TIME FOR MY ROCKETS TO CONK OUT! I'LL HAVE TO HIKE TO **RANAGAR CITY!**

SPITTER

SPITTER

HOURS LATER, THE WORRIED EARTHMAN HURRIES TO PROFESSOR SARDATH'S LABORATORY IN RANAGAR WHERE..

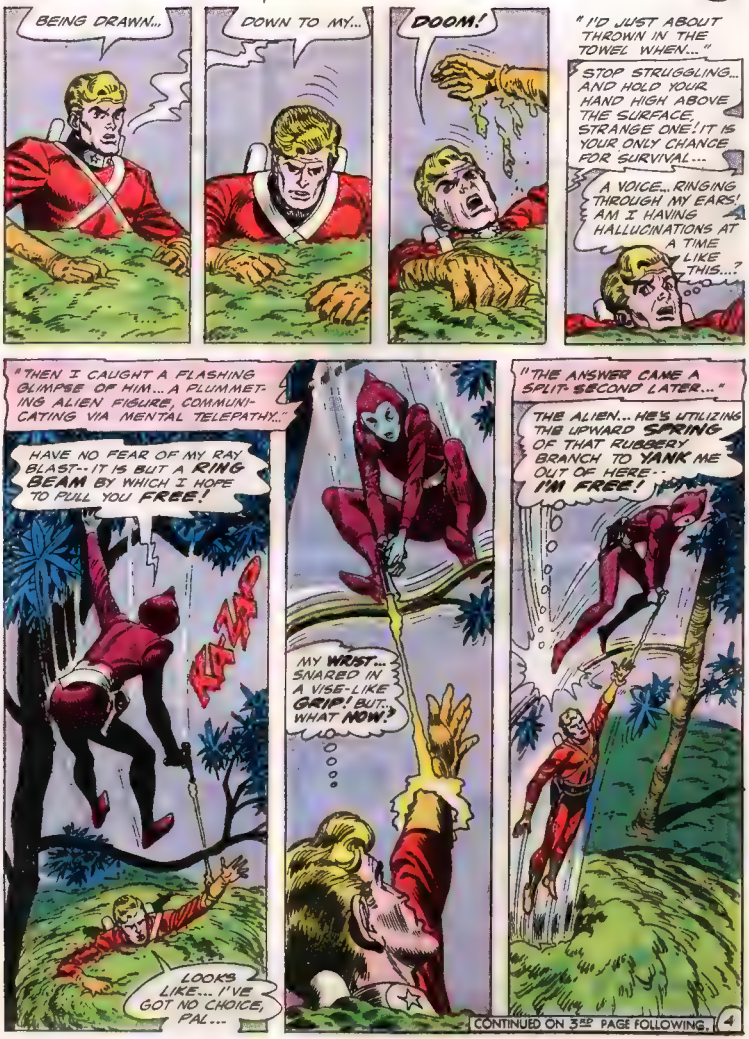
ADAM... ADAM, DARLING... YOU'RE **HERE!** THANK THE STARS YOU'RE ALL RIGHT-- DAD AND I HAVE BEEN SO WORRIED!

WORRIED? SO WAS **I**... WHEN NOBODY MET ME, ALANNA...

BUT DAD AND I WERE BOTH THERE... **YESTERDAY,** WHEN YOU WERE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE! SEE THE CHART...

YOU'RE RIGHT-- I WAS DUE YESTERDAY! SOMEHOW... SOMEWHERE... I'VE LOST **TWENTY-FOUR HOURS!**

BUT WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, ADAM? THAT VIAL OF VAPOR GAS IN YOUR HAND--WHERE DID YOU GET IT?
I--I DON'T KNOW, SARDATH... I CAN'T REMEMBER A THING AFTER I CAUGHT THE ZETA-BEAM IN THE BUSH COUNTRY IN AUSTRALIA!
HMM... THIS APPEARS TO BE AN EXCELLENT TIME TO TEST MY LATEST INVENTION--AN ELECTRONIC HELMET DESIGNED TO JOG AND REFRESH THE MINDS OF AMNESIA VICTIMS! BE SEATED, ADAM...
"TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO ME IN ALL THAT TIME"
A MOMENT LATER, THE HELMET HUMS-- BULBS FLASH AND...
THINK... "THINK BACK, ADAM! THE ZETA-BEAM ON EARTH WAS TELEPORTING YOU TO RANN... THEN WHAT..."
I--I'M BEGINNING TO REMEMBER... I NEVER ARRIVED ON RANN!
"I RECALL MY MOMENT OF MATERIALIZATION AT AN INCREDIBLE LOCATION..."
A GREEN SUN... GREEN SAND! INSTEAD OF BEING TRANSPORTED TO RANN ON THE ZETA-BEAM, I'VE LANDED ON A STRANGE WORLD-- "TRAPPED."
"I FRANTICALLY ACTIVATED MY ROCKETS. BUT..."
THIS FREAK SAND... IT'S FOULED MY ROCKET VALVES! HEY! I'M SINKING...
SPUTTER SPUTTER
3


BEING DRAWN...
DOWN TO MY...
DOOM!
"I'D JUST ABOUT THROWN IN THE TOWEL WHEN..."
STOP STRUGGLING... AND HOLD YOUR HAND HIGH ABOVE THE SURFACE, STRANGE ONE! IT IS YOUR ONLY CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL...
A VOICE... RINGING THROUGH MY EARS! AM I HAVING HALLUCINATIONS AT A TIME LIKE THIS...?
"THEN I CAUGHT A FLASHING GLIMPSE OF HIM... A PLUMMETING ALIEN FIGURE, COMMUNICATING VIA MENTAL TELEPATHY..."
HAVE NO FEAR OF MY RAY BLAST-- IT IS BUT A RING BEAM BY WHICH I HOPE TO PULL YOU FREE!
KA-ZAP
LOOKS LIKE... I'VE GOT NO CHOICE, PAL...
MY WRIST... SNARED IN A VISE-LIKE GRIP! BUT, WHAT NOW?
"THE ANSWER CAME A SPLIT-SECOND LATER..."
THE ALIEN... HE'S UTILIZING THE UPWARD SPRING OF THAT RUBBERY BRANCH TO YANK ME OUT OF HERE-- I'M FREE!

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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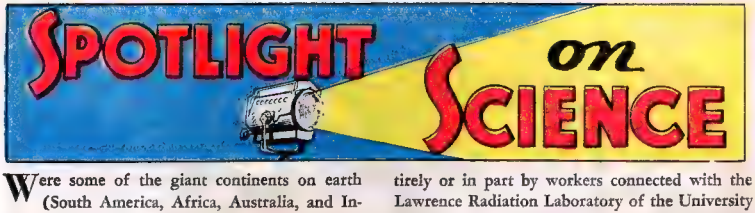


Were some of the giant continents on earth (South America, Africa, Australia, and India) once joined together, to form one mighty continent? Some scientists believe so. They have even given it a name—Gondwanaland.

It is claimed that the continents parted sometime after one of the earlier ice ages, then began to drift apart across the earth's surface. Support for this theory is the similarity of the markings found on all of these widely separated continents —markings left by the ice sheets of this earlier ice age.

It is difficult to believe, the scientists aver, that a single ice sheet could cover such an incredibly broad area as is encompassed by the continents in their present locations; it is much more believable that the continents were once jammed together in a single unit.

* * *

The minor perturbations in the orbit of Neptune, long known and observed by astronomers, were once blamed on the gravitational pull of neighboring Pluto. But now, according to a theory advanced by Fred L. Whipple, director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, they may be caused by a belt of comets ringing the sun beyond Neptune's orbit.

Astronomers have suspected for some time the existence of a large mass of small solid bodies at the outskirts of the solar system, the composition of these bodies being similar to that of the outermost planets—Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. It is estimated that this belt of comets, invisible to our largest telescopes, has a total mass about 10 to 20 times that of earth.

* * *

Russian scientists from the physics center at Dubna may be the first in the world-wide race to produce element 104—which they have not yet named. During the past 24 years, eleven radioactive elements heavier than uranium have been created. All of these were identified either entirely or in part by workers connected with the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory of the University of California at Berkeley. The Russian feat would be the 12th.

* * *

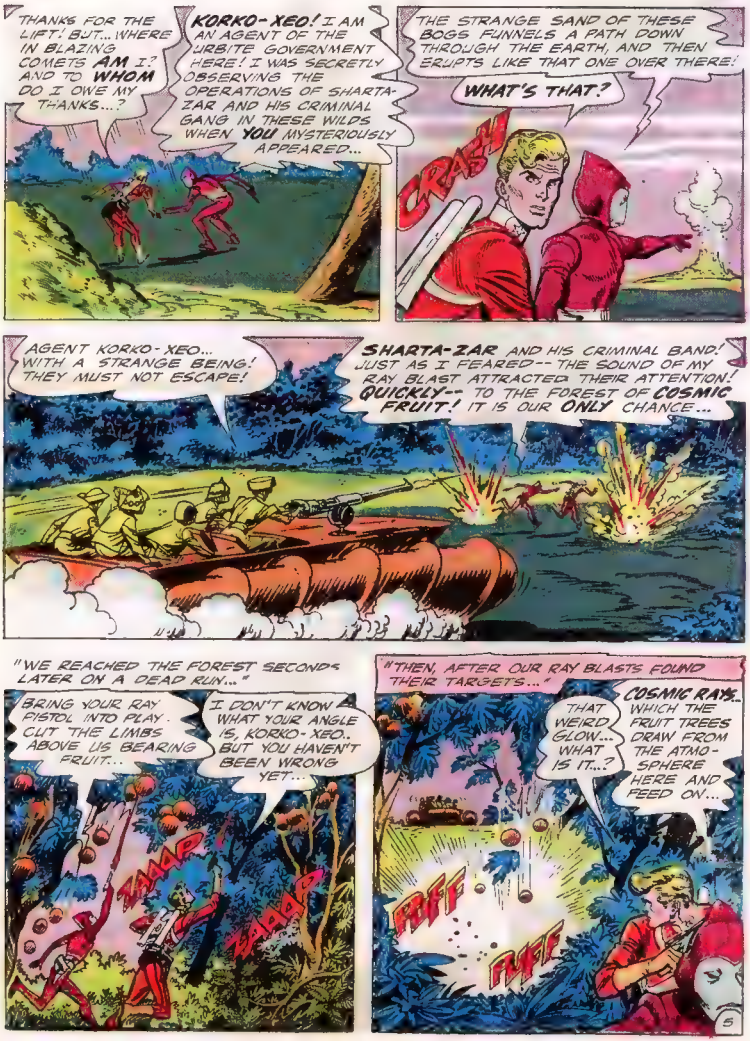
Although oceanographers have held the view for many years that the vast areas beneath the seas have immense importance for mankind, little has been done in a sustained way to explore the ocean depths. Chief hurdle, of course, has always been the lack of technical know-how—a submarine that can go down deep enough to tap the ocean's secrets and potential wealth. All that is being rapidly changed now.

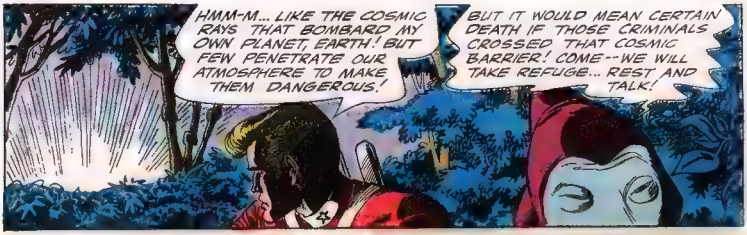
A new ship—the Aluminaut—is nearing completion after three years and a cost of about $3,000,000. This undersea craft is designed to be the world's deepest-diving sub—submerging to a depth of nearly three miles. This would make her capable of scraping the bottom of 60 per cent of the earth's ocean areas.

But the Aluminaut is not the only deep-sea diving craft of unique design and capabilities. Already undergoing tests is the Alvin, built by General Mills, Inc. for the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. This vessel is capable of cruising to 6,000 feet.

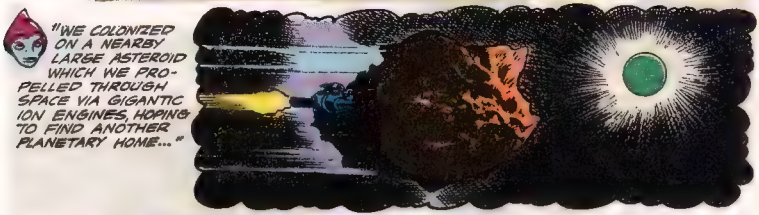
And on the drawing boards of Westinghouse Electric Corp. is an entire fleet of submarines that will operate at depths of from 4,000 to 12,000 feet. The forerunner of this fleet is a vessel which Westinghouse has built in association with La Spirotechnique, S.A. of Paris, and Capt. Jacques-Yves Cousteau, the famous French oceanographer.

This underwater vessel, named the Deepstar, will have a design depth of 12,000 feet, and is scheduled for completion early next year. Already underwater is the Aborah, a 16-foot submarine built by Electric Boat. The Aborah has a crew of American archeologists from the University of Pennsylvania who are on the hunt for wrecks of ancient ships.

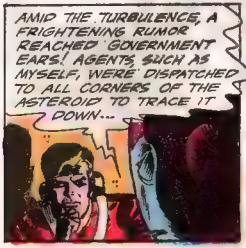

THANKS FOR THE LIFT! BUT... WHERE IN BLAZING COMETS AM I? AND TO WHOM DO I OWE MY THANKS...?
KORKO-XEO! I AM AN AGENT OF THE URBITE GOVERNMENT HERE! I WAS SECRETLY OBSERVING THE OPERATIONS OF SHARTA-ZAR AND HIS CRIMINAL GANG IN THESE WILDS WHEN YOU MYSTERIOUSLY APPEARED...
THE STRANGE SAND OF THESE BOGS FUNNELS A PATH DOWN THROUGH THE EARTH, AND THEN ERUPTS LIKE THAT ONE OVER THERE!
WHAT'S THAT?
CRASH
AGENT KORKO-XEO... WITH A STRANGE BEING! THEY MUST NOT ESCAPE!
SHARTA-ZAR AND HIS CRIMINAL BAND! JUST AS I FEARED-- THE SOUND OF MY RAY BLAST ATTRACTED THEIR ATTENTION! QUICKLY-- TO THE FOREST OF COSMIC FRUIT! IT IS OUR ONLY CHANCE...
"WE REACHED THE FOREST SECONDS LATER ON A DEAD RUN..."
BRING YOUR RAY PISTOL INTO PLAY. CUT THE LIMBS ABOVE US BEARING FRUIT...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR ANGLE IS, KORKO-XEO. BUT YOU HAVEN'T BEEN WRONG YET...
ZAAAP
ZAAAP
"THEN, AFTER OUR RAY BLASTS FOUND THEIR TARGETS..."
THAT WEIRD GLOW... WHAT IS IT...?
COSMIC RAYS... WHICH THE FRUIT TREES DRAW FROM THE ATMOSPHERE HERE AND FEED ON...
FIFF
FIFF

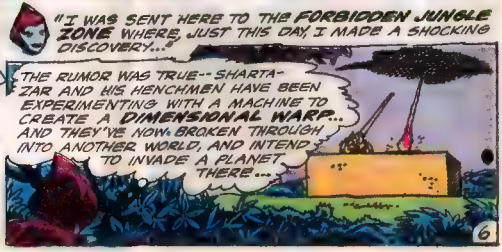

HMM-M... LIKE THE COSMIC RAYS THAT BOMBARD MY OWN PLANET, EARTH! BUT FEW PENETRATE OUR ATMOSPHERE TO MAKE THEM DANGEROUS!
BUT IT WOULD MEAN CERTAIN DEATH IF THOSE CRIMINALS CROSSED THAT COSMIC BARRIER! COME--WE WILL TAKE REFUGE... REST AND TALK!

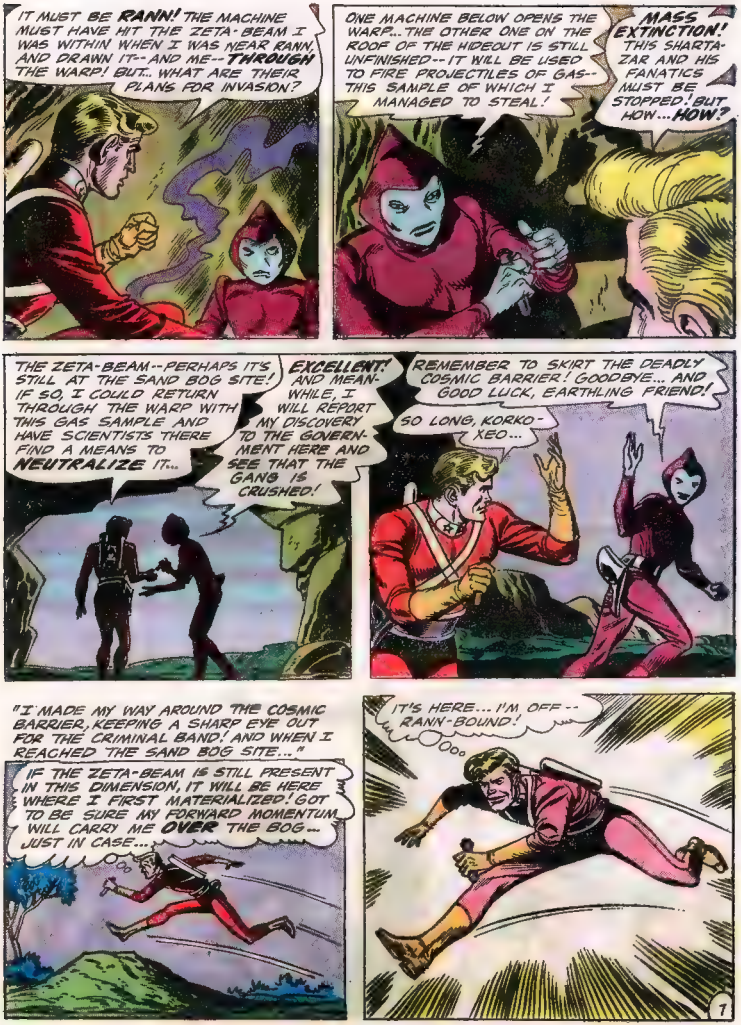
"IN THE CONCEALMENT OF A CAVE, MY ALIEN FRIEND BEGAN TO ANSWER THE MANY BEWILDERING QUESTIONS THAT TORE AT MY MIND..."
YOU SEE, ADAM, YOU ARE IN ANOTHER WORLD--ANOTHER DIMENSION! BUT LET ME START FROM THE BEGINNING--LONG AGO. THE SCIENTISTS OF MY CIVILIZATION DETERMINED THAT OUR PLANET WAS DOOMED!


"WE COLONIZED ON A NEARBY LARGE ASTEROID WHICH WE PROPELLED THROUGH SPACE VIA GIGANTIC ION ENGINES, HOPING TO FIND ANOTHER PLANETARY HOME..."

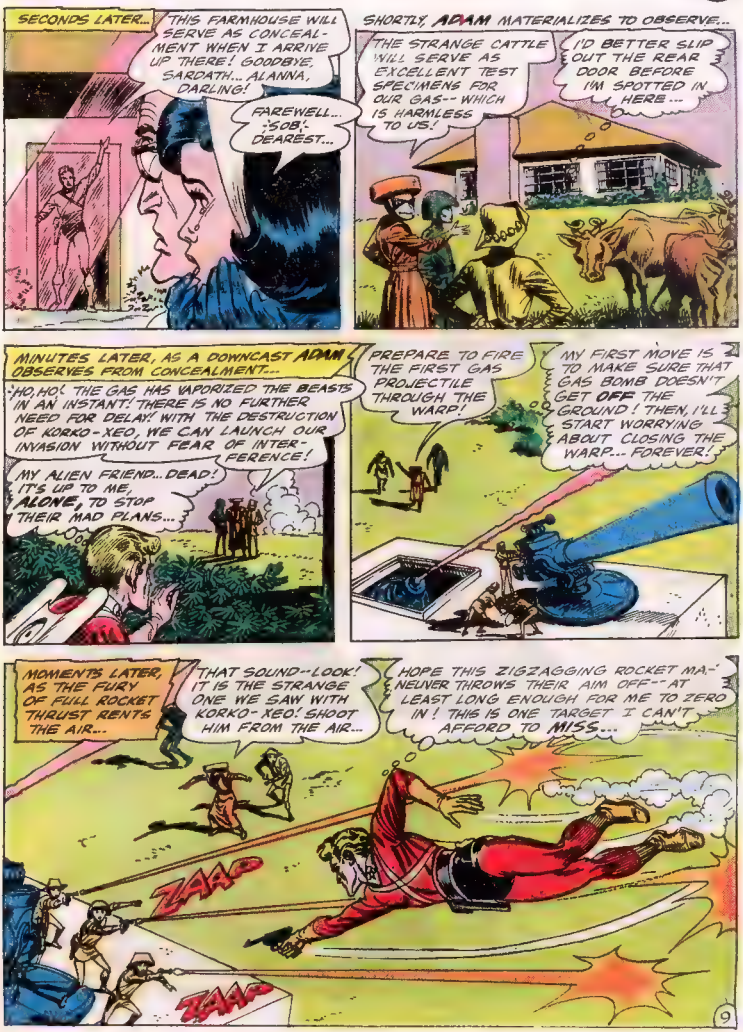
"OUR SEARCH THUS FAR HAS BEEN IN VAIN! THE CONSTANT DANGERS OF THIS ASTEROID EXISTENCE SPREAD FEAR AND UNREST AMONG MY PEOPLE..."
ANOTHER SWARM OF GIANT LOCUSTS! FLEE FOR YOUR LIVES!


AMID THE TURBULENCE, A FRIGHTENING RUMOR REACHED GOVERNMENT EARS! AGENTS, SUCH AS MYSELF, WERE DISPATCHED TO ALL CORNERS OF THE ASTEROID TO TRACE IT DOWN...


"I WAS SENT HERE TO THE FORBIDDEN JUNGLE ZONE WHERE, JUST THIS DAY, I MADE A SHOCKING DISCOVERY..."
THE RUMOR WAS TRUE--SHARTA-ZAR AND HIS HENCHMEN HAVE BEEN EXPERIMENTING WITH A MACHINE TO CREATE A DIMENSIONAL WARP... AND THEY'VE NOW BROKEN THROUGH INTO ANOTHER WORLD, AND INTEND TO INVADE A PLANET THERE...
6


IT MUST BE RANN! THE MACHINE MUST HAVE HIT THE ZETA-BEAM I WAS WITHIN WHEN I WAS NEAR RANN, AND DRAWN IT--AND ME--THROUGH THE WARP! BUT.. WHAT ARE THEIR PLANS FOR INVASION?
ONE MACHINE BELOW OPENS THE WARP...THE OTHER ONE ON THE ROOF OF THE HIDEOUT IS STILL UNFINISHED--IT WILL BE USED TO FIRE PROJECTILES OF GAS--THIS SAMPLE OF WHICH I MANAGED TO STEAL!
MASS EXTINCTION! THIS SHARTA-ZAR AND HIS FANATICS MUST BE STOPPED! BUT HOW...HOW?
THE ZETA-BEAM--PERHAPS IT'S STILL AT THE SAND BOG SITE! IF SO, I COULD RETURN THROUGH THE WARP WITH THIS GAS SAMPLE AND HAVE SCIENTISTS THERE FIND A MEANS TO NEUTRALIZE IT...
EXCELLENT! AND MEANWHILE, I WILL REPORT MY DISCOVERY TO THE GOVERNMENT HERE AND SEE THAT THE GANG IS CRUSHED!
REMEMBER TO SKIRT THE DEADLY COSMIC BARRIER! GOODBYE... AND GOOD LUCK, EARTHLING FRIEND!
SO LONG, KORKO-XEO...
"I MADE MY WAY AROUND THE COSMIC BARRIER, KEEPING A SHARP EYE OUT FOR THE CRIMINAL BAND! AND WHEN I REACHED THE SAND BOG SITE..."
IF THE ZETA-BEAM IS STILL PRESENT IN THIS DIMENSION, IT WILL BE HERE WHERE I FIRST MATERIALIZED! GOT TO BE SURE MY FORWARD MOMENTUM WILL CARRY ME OVER THE BOG... JUST IN CASE...
IT'S HERE... I'M OFF--RANN-BOUND!
7

AND...THAT'S IT! MY TRIP BACK THROUGH THE WARP MUST HAVE SHAKEN MY MEMORY--THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T REMEMBER!
INCREDIBLE! BUT AT LEAST YOU MADE IT BACK, ADAM! I'LL GET TO WORK ON THIS GAS SAMPLE AT ONCE! WE MUST FIND A NEUTRALIZER--WE MUST!
BUT IT IS A GRIM-FACED SARGATH THAT CONFRONTS ADAM AND ALANNA AN HOUR LATER..
THIS GAS MIXTURE IS UNKNOWN TO US.. DEADLY! PERHAPS SPECIAL GAS MASKS COULD BE DEVELOPED IN TIME..
BUT.. TIME IS THE ONE THING WE HAVEN'T GOT, DAD! THIS FANTASTIC INVASION MIGHT TAKE PLACE AT ANY MOMENT...
CITIZENS OF FARM DISTRICT REPORT THAT SOME CATTLE... AND A FEW STRUCTURES ARE SUDDENLY, MYSTERIOUSLY VANISHING...
THE ASTEROID MUST BE CLOSER NOW--AND SHARTA-ZAR IS LAUNCHING ANOTHER PROBE THROUGH THE WARP! HELP ME INTO A SPARE SET OF ROCKETS AND WE'LL BLAST OFF FOR THE FARM AREA!
SHORTLY...
THAT BEAM FROM THE SKY, ADAM... IT'S WHISKING EVERYTHING AWAY!
YES... THE CRIMINALS MUST BE SEEKING SAMPLES FROM RANN BEFORE EXECUTING THEIR PLAN! I'M... I'M AFRAID KORKO-XEO AND HIS GOVERNMENT FAILED TO SMASH THE GANG! THERE'S ONLY ONE OTHER WAY...
I'VE GOT TO GO BACK INTO THEIR DIMENSION! IF KORKO-XEO DIDN'T GET THROUGH, THEN I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS KNOWLEDGE OF THE CRIMINALS' HIDEOUT LOCALE...
GOOD GRIEF, ADAM--NO! YOU'LL... NEVER ESCAPE FROM THERE AGAIN!
THAT DEADLY GAS SATURATION OF RANN MUST BE STOPPED AT ALL COSTS, HONEY! WHAT'S ONE LIFE... TO SAVE MILLIONS!
ADAM'S RIGHT, ALANNA! IT'S A BRAVE DECISION HE'S MADE...GOOD LUCK, MY BOY!
8


SECONDS LATER...
THIS FARMHOUSE WILL SERVE AS CONCEALMENT WHEN I ARRIVE UP THERE! GOODBYE, SARDATH... ALANNA, DARLING!
FAREWELL... SOB! DEAREST...
SHORTLY, ADAM MATERIALIZES TO OBSERVE...
THE STRANGE CATTLE WILL SERVE AS EXCELLENT TEST SPECIMENS FOR OUR GAS-- WHICH IS HARMLESS TO US!
I'D BETTER SLIP OUT THE REAR DOOR BEFORE I'M SPOTTED IN HERE...
MINUTES LATER, AS A DOWNCAST ADAM OBSERVES FROM CONCEALMENT...
HO, HO! THE GAS HAS VAPORIZED THE BEASTS IN AN INSTANT! THERE IS NO FURTHER NEED FOR DELAY! WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF KORKO-XEO, WE CAN LAUNCH OUR INVASION WITHOUT FEAR OF INTERFERENCE!
MY ALIEN FRIEND... DEAD! IT'S UP TO ME, ALONE, TO STOP THEIR MAD PLANS...
PREPARE TO FIRE THE FIRST GAS PROJECTILE THROUGH THE WARP!
MY FIRST MOVE IS TO MAKE SURE THAT GAS BOMB DOESN'T GET OFF THE GROUND! THEN, I'LL START WORRYING ABOUT CLOSING THE WARP... FOREVER!
MOMENTS LATER, AS THE FURY OF FULL ROCKET THRUST RENTS THE AIR...
THAT SOUND--LOOK! IT IS THE STRANGE ONE WE SAW WITH KORKO-XEO! SHOOT HIM FROM THE AIR...
HOPE THIS ZIGZAGGING ROCKET MAN NEVER THROWS THEIR AIM OFF--AT LEAST LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO ZERO IN! THIS IS ONE TARGET I CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS...
ZAAP
ZAAP

THE DETERMINED EARTHMAN ROCKETS THROUGH A HAIL OF RAY BLASTS, AND...

HE'S...SHOT AWAY THE FIRING MECHANISM! SHOOT HIM DOWN BEFORE HE DESTROYS THE WHOLE MACHINE!

ONE MORE WELL PLACED BLAST SHOULD KNOCK THAT GAS CANNON OUT OF ACTION FOR KEEPS...

BUT THEN, LUCK RUNS OUT FOR **ADAM STRANGE**...

MY PISTOL... BLASTED FROM MY HAND! NOW, I'M **DEFENSELESS**-- NOT A CHANCE OF SHOOTING MY WAY INTO THE BUILDING AND DESTROYING THE **OTHER** MACHINE...

TWANG

AND IN A MATTER OF HOURS THEY'LL REPAIR THE GAS CANNON AND SHOOT THE BOMB! I'VE GOT TO GET A WEAPON **SOMEWHERE**--BUT WHERE?...OF COURSE...I'VE GOT A NATURAL ONE I CAN USE...

THEN, AS **ADAM** ROCKETS FROM THE AREA...

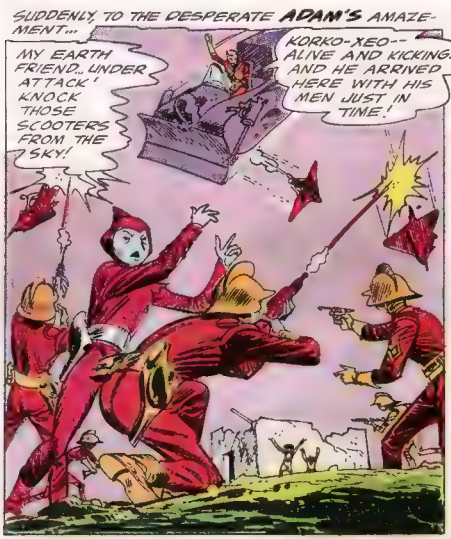
FORGET THAT **FOOL**-- HE'S HARMLESS WITHOUT A **WEAPON**!

THAT'S WHAT **YOU** THINK, PAL! THIS JET-DOZER THE CRIMINALS **USED** FOR CONSTRUCTION, **SHOULD DO** THE TRICK...

A SHORT TIME LATER...

I'VE GOT MY "WEAPON"! NOW TO ROCKET IN FAST AND **UNLOAD** IT BEFORE SHARTAZAR AND HIS BOYS KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON...

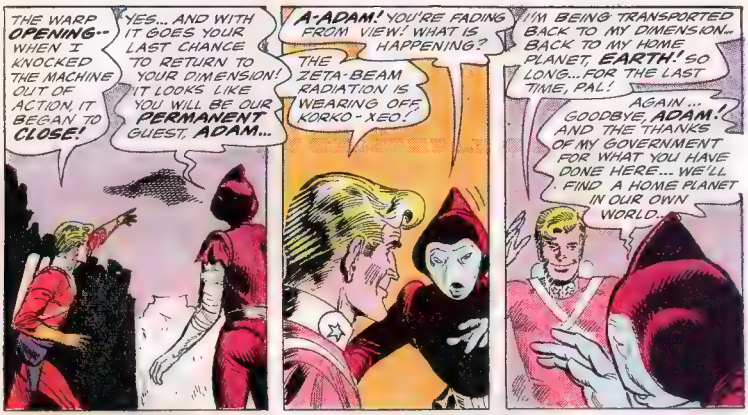
TENSE MOMENTS LATER, THE AIRBORNE ADAM ABRUPTLY REVERSES ROCKETS AND...
GOT TO SWING THE BUCKET RIGHT OVER THE HOLE IF I HOPE TO SCORE...
THE STRANGE ONE -- HE'S BACK!... BUT... WHAT IS HE UP TO...?
YIIII! A LOAD OF THE GREEN SAND... HE'S DUMPING IT INTO THE ROOF HOLE THROUGH WHICH OUR WARP MACHINE OPERATES...
AND THAT SHOULD SINK YOUR INVASION PLANS -- BUT GOOD, PAL!
THEN...
AND THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN!
WHERE'S MY AIR GUARD? I WANT THAT MEDDLER DESTROYED!
SUDDENLY...
SURROUNDED... BY CRIMINAL AIR-SCOOTERS! CAN'T DUCK THEIR BLASTS FOREVER... AND THERE'S NO PLACE TO GO...
THIS IS IT... I'M FINISHED...
WHAM
BZZM
BOOM
11


SUDDENLY, TO THE DESPERATE ADAM'S AMAZEMENT...
MY EARTH FRIEND.. UNDER ATTACK! KNOCK THOSE SCOOTERS FROM THE SKY!
KORKO-XEO--ALIVE AND KICKING! AND HE ARRIVED HERE WITH HIS MEN JUST IN TIME!

AND AS THE RESCUED ADAM LANDS...
SHARTA-ZAR THOUGHT I HAD DIED WHEN A RAY BLAST KNOCKED ME FROM A CLIFF, BUT I SURVIVED! AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK HERE, ADAM?
JUST WAIT UNTIL I TELL YOU, KORKO-XEO...

SHORTLY...
A FANTASTIC ADVENTURE, ADAM! BUT COME--LET US SEE WHAT EFFECT THE GREEN SAND HAS HAD ON THE WARP MACHINE!

AND INSIDE THE CRUMBLED BUILDING...
WOW! IT'S BEING SUCKED DOWN WITH THE GREEN SAND INTO THE EARTH! IT'LL NEVER BE OPERABLE AGAIN...
TRUE! AND FOR YOUR SAKE, IT WILL BE A PITY, ADAM! LOOK TO THE SKY...


THE WARP OPENING-- WHEN I KNOCKED THE MACHINE OUT OF ACTION, IT BEGAN TO CLOSE!
YES... AND WITH IT GOES YOUR LAST CHANCE TO RETURN TO YOUR DIMENSION! IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WILL BE OUR PERMANENT GUEST, ADAM...
A-ADAM! YOU'RE FADING FROM VIEW! WHAT IS HAPPENING?
THE ZETA-BEAM RADIATION IS WEARING OFF, KORKO-XEO!
I'M BEING TRANSPORTED BACK TO MY DIMENSION... BACK TO MY HOME PLANET, EARTH! SO LONG... FOR THE LAST TIME, PAL!
AGAIN... GOODBYE, ADAM! AND THE THANKS OF MY GOVERNMENT FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE HERE... WE'LL FIND A HOME PLANET IN OUR OWN WORLD...

AND THUS, ADAM STRANGE IS ONCE AGAIN TRANSPORTED BACK TO EARTH-- BUT THIS TIME, FROM THE FAR REACHES OF A WEIRD, UNKNOWN DIMENSION...
RANN IS SAFE--ALANNA AND SARDATH WILL KNOW I SUCCEEDED IN MY MISSION TO THE OTHER DIMENSION! BUT THEY WON'T KNOW I SURVIVED UNTIL I RETURN TO RANN AGAIN!
13
THE End

WHOSE FACE DOES THE ENEMY SEE IN HIS SMOKING SIGHTS?... GI JOE!

WHOSE FACE DOES THE ENEMY SEE IN HIS WILDEST NIGHTMARES?... GI JOE!

BUT-WHO REALLY IS GI JOE?

THE SOLDIER WHO WALKS THROUGH EXPLODING STEEL ?
THE FROGMAN WHO PLAYS TAG WITH A TORPEDO ?
THE MARINE WHO CAN ONLY SPELL-ATTACK ?

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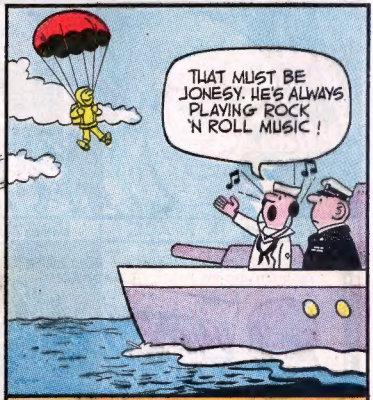

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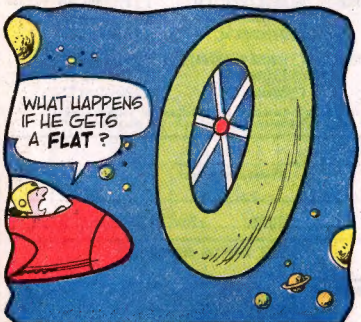

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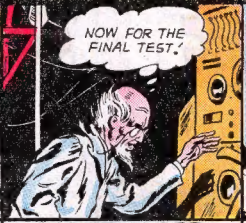

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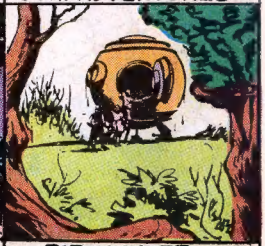

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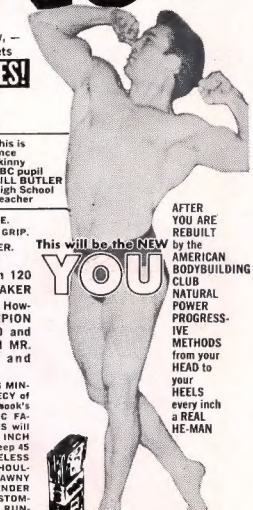

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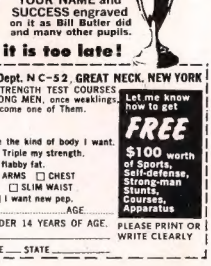

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